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OCCASIONAL PAPERS OF THE MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN. PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY.

THE ORNITHOLOGICAL WRITINGS OF CHARLES FOX.

BY BRADSHAW H. SWALES.

For many years students of Michigan ornithology have encountered in the literature references to a paper on the birds of the state by Rev. Charles Fox. Fox came to Michigan from New York in 1830 and settled on Grosse Isle, in the lower Detroit River, where he remained until his death, by cholera, in 1854. He seemed to have been a man of rather unusual scientific attainments for his time. At Grosse Isle he occupied a church on the west side of the island, and at the same time was lecturer in agriculture in the University of Michigan and senior editor of the Farmer's Companion and Horticultural Gazette. He was apparently broadly interested in zoology, particularly in herpetology, and supplied Professor Baird, of

the Smithsonian Institution, with a number of specimens from Michigan.

The place of publication of the paper on the birds of Michigan has never been given, and recent authors have been unable to find it, although several, including the writer, have carefully searched for it. In 1913, while working over the separates of the Division of Birds, U. S. National Museum, the writer found the paper in a bound volume of separates formerly belonging to Professor S. F. Baird. It had evidently been extracted from a bound volume, and the pages were numbered from 159 to 163, but there was nothing by which one could determine the name of the volume of which it had formed a part. In September, 1914, Dr. Charles W. Richmond, U. S. National Museum, kindly informed the writer of the discovery that it had been published in Volume I of "The Peninsular Journal of Medicine and the Collateral Sciences. Edited by E. Andrews, A.M., M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, Michigan: Printed for the Proprietors, by George E. Pomeroy & Co., Tribune Office, Detroit, 1853-4."

A copy of this volume is in the library of the University of Michigan. In it there is a second paper by Fox, pages 352 and 353, entitled "Art. II.—The Birds of Michigan," which consists of notes supplementary to the first paper.